

THE KNOXVILLE INDEPENDENT

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DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS

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OF THE COMMON PEOPLE.

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SATURDAY, MARCH 16, 1918.

WHOLE NUMBER 1218

ROBERT S. LOVETT



Robert S. Lovett, former chairman of the board of the Union Pacific, and priorities director of the war industries board, has been appointed by Director General McAdoo chief of a new division of betterments and additions of the railroad administration. This newly created position is considered one of the most important in the railroad administration.

U. S. GUNS BLOW UP FOE

Artillery Fire Levels German Trenches; Americans Over Top.

Kill Teutons by Shell and Rifle Fire—Hottest Fighting Yet in the Tuel Sector.

With the American Army in France, March 14.—American raiders in the sector north of Tuel again entered the German trenches last night at a different spot than they raided yesterday.

They found the German first lines evacuated, as in the morning attack, and took no prisoners.

The American artillery put down a perfect barrage, simultaneously hammering the German batteries in the rear. Machine guns whipped the German trenches where the wire entanglements had been cut.

Under cover of the barrage and machine gun fire, the Yankee infantrymen enthusiastically went over the top. They found portions of the German trenches leveled and dugouts smashed. Some pieces of bodies, blown to bits by the American high explosive shells, were discovered.

A few shots were exchanged with the Boches, who were late in retreating. The raiders returned within 15 minutes after they had left their own trenches. Activity on this sector has been most intense, the American gunners causing fires and explosions behind the enemy lines.

The American troops east of Lunerville, in Lorraine, which places them very near the Franco-German border, went into the German positions Monday and found that the enemy had not yet returned to the trenches he evacuated the day before. Despite German artillery fire against them, the raiders came back to their own lines without a casualty.

Along the Chemin des Dames the crew of a German air raider, which fell at Clamecy Monday night, was made prisoner by American soldiers. The Germans later were turned over to the French.

TO SOLVE "SUBS" BY AUGUST

Admiral Jellicoe of British Navy, Quoted as Saying End of Problem Is in Sight.

Seattle, Wash., March 14.—Maj. Gen. H. N. Greene, commander of Camp Lewis, Tacoma, who recently returned from a visit to the battle front, in speaking at a dinner, said Admiral Jellicoe of the British navy told him that the U-boat problem would be solved before August.

"He did not say how it would be done," General Greene said, "but I consider him a very able man and I hope he knows what he is talking about."

TOLL OF LIFE IS HEAVY

Air Raid Over Paris Monday Night Causes 100 Deaths—75 Others Injured.

Paris, March 14.—The German air raid over Paris on Monday night took a heavier toll of human life than at first believed. Twenty-nine persons were killed by bombs in the city, while 66 others died from suffocation during a panic in the underground railway. Five others were killed in the suburbs. More than 75 persons were injured.

U. S. TO RUSH MEN TO FRENCH FRONT

Shakeup of Commanders of Draft Troops Accompanies Announcement.

ALLIES APPEAL FOR TROOPS

Whole Movement Across Is Being Speeded Up as Rapidly as Possible, Says Gen. March—War Material Ready.

Washington, March 14.—New orders have gone forth to speed the sending of troops to France.

In consequence the drafted men are to be dispatched to Europe as fast as ships are available.

Sweeping changes in the commanding personnel of the American army were foreshadowed when seven general officers were relieved of field commands and assigned to home duty.

The shakeup is a result of the demand of General Pershing that only commanders physically fit be sent abroad.

The officers affected are:

Maj. Gen. Thomas H. Barry, relieved from command Eighty-sixth division, Camp Grant, Ill., and assigned to command central department, Chicago, relieving Maj. Gen. W. H. Carter, retired.

Maj. Gen. Edward H. Plummer, to brigadier general; relieved from command Eighty-eighth division, Camp Dodge, Ia.

Maj. Gen. Richard W. Blatchford, to brigadier general, commanding department of Panama.

Maj. Gen. Edwin St. J. Greble, to brigadier general, and relieved of command Thirty-sixth division, Camp Bowie, Tex.

Maj. Gen. Charles C. Morton, relieved from command Twenty-ninth division, Camp McClellan, Ala.

Maj. Gen. William H. Sage, to brigadier general, relieved of command Thirty-eighth division, Camp Shelby, Miss.

Maj. Gen. William A. Mann, to brigadier general, commanding Eastern department, New York.

The reductions in grade were made because all except Barry and Morton were holding their higher grades only for the period of the war on assignment to the National army.

All general officers abroad, including Maj. Gen. Leonard Wood, it was indicated, also must pass a rigid physical test.

National army commands were the first affected, because of orders to rush the draft divisions to France.

Allies Appeal for Troops.

The orders to speed up are reported to have resulted from fresh appeals of the allies for more American forces to help withstand the expected German offensives.

France, particularly, is said to have renewed her urgings.

"The whole movement across," said General March, "is being speeded up as rapidly as possible."

Simultaneously with the shakeup and orders to speed up transportation came cheering news that all records in preparations are to be smashed.

From the shipping board and diplomatic sources came assurances the transportation situation is rapidly clearing.

Food, clothing, shells and guns are beginning to pile up in prodigious amounts.

All records in training men have been broken. The draft army, after six months, is as well trained as it can be on this side of the Atlantic. It was indicated at the war department the selects were ready for the final training in France.

BRITISH URGE SIBERIA MOVE

Sooner Japan Acts Against Hun Domination, the Better, Says London Telegraph.

London, March 14.—Concerning doubts expressed in some quarters on the subject of Japanese intervention in Siberia, the Daily Telegraph says that Japan is a British ally of twelve years' standing, and during all that time she has, apart from the services rendered to the allied cause in the course of the war, shown herself an honorable and trustworthy associate. The paper declares that the sooner the Japs act, the better.

GOMPERS TO RUSSIA'S AID

Tells Soviet Congress U. S. Seeks to Help in Fight for Freedom.

Washington, March 14.—Samuel Gompers, president of the American Federation of Labor, on behalf of the American Alliance for Labor and Democracy today sent to the all Russian congress of soviets at Moscow a message of sympathy to the Russian people "in their struggle to safeguard freedom."

WHICH WILL YOU DO?

SPEND AND HELP THE ENEMY

OR

SAVE AND HELP YOUR GOVERNMENT?

Saturday March 23, 1918 WAR SAVINGS DAY

But do not wait until then to start your thrift card.

Begin saving today. Save every day.

BUY A THRIFT STAMP TODAY.
BUY A THRIFT STAMP EVERY DAY.

National War Savings Committee



W. L. CLAPP Candidate For Republican Nomination For TRUSTEE FOR KNOX COUNTY

I am a candidate for the Republican nomination for Trustee for Knox County, in the Primary, to be held March 21, 1918. I was born and reared on a farm at Corryton, this county, and lived there until seven years ago.

MY PUBLIC RECORD

One term as Justice of the Peace; seven years as assistant postmaster and cashier of the Knoxville post office.

During my services as assistant postmaster, I became a member of the Local Post Office Clerks Union No. 798.

I respectfully solicit your vote and influence.

W. L. CLAPP

750,000 PERSONS FLEE PETROGRAD

Chaos Reigns as Soldiers and Sailors Apportion Supplies and Hasten Home.

DIVIDE CASH AND CLOTHING

All Passenger Train Service Has Been Discontinued—Only Cattle Trains Are Operating on the Old War-Time Schedule.

Berlin, March 14.—German and Austro-Hungarian troops are now before Odessa, the war office announces.

Chicago, March 14.—A special cablegram to the Chicago Daily News from Petrograd says:

"The evacuation of Petrograd continues and practically the whole government personnel has gone to Moscow. The technical sections of the government institutions are removing the material as rapidly as trains are prepared to receive it. The soldiers of the Petrograd garrison and the sailors in the warships on the Neva, considering their military service terminated, are proceeding home, carrying as spoils all movable materials and equipment.

"Day and night motortrucks laden with every manner of thing thrown together in riotous confusion—typewriters and machine guns, mattresses and bombs—move toward the railroad station, following the street car tracks to avoid the heavy banks of accumulated snow.

Crews Divide Ships' Equipment.

"When the soviet decided to evacuate Petrograd the crews of the three warships in the Neva held meetings and decided that as far as they were concerned the war was over and that each sailor was free to return to his village. The silver plate, crockery, and every particle of the movable equipment were divided and distributed so that each member of the crew received approximately an equal share.

"A sailor presiding at one of the meetings presented a resolution authorizing the distribution with the argument that the warships formerly belonged to the czar, but that the revolution made them the people's property. As it was impossible to divide equally the three cruisers among 180,000 people of Russia, the crews of those three ships had a perfect right to divide the materials, provided they relinquished claim to any other properties of the former czar.

Regiments Appropriate Supplies.

"Everything in the Russian army and navy is now in a process of liquidation in a similar manner. Regiments are dividing cash, reserve clothing and supplies. The automobile units are selling their motors and supplies and dividing the proceeds, while the commissariat is making an equal distribution of food.

The psychological formula of the soldier units today is to gather all the loot and spoils possible, divide them equally, and return to their native villages as quickly as they can for the purpose of being present when the land is redistributed.

Capital Becoming Empty Shell.

"Petrograd is rapidly becoming an empty shell. It is estimated that already more than three-quarters of a million people, including soldiers, sailors, civilians and foreigners, have departed. Because there are fewer mouths to feed the situation is better than it has been before in weeks, while the street cars are less crowded than at any other time since the beginning of the war.

"Tuesday the municipal soviet issued a paradoxical explanation of the evacuation. In a proclamation it declared that the international situation required the soviet government to remove to a safer place, but that Petrograd was not menaced by German troops. The mayor warned the population against listening to provocators, who might attempt to cause a panic and who, according to his proclamation, should be shot down without mercy. Refugees are permitted to quit Petrograd only after receiving the authorization of the evacuation committee. Many thousands of permits are issued daily.

"All passenger train service was discontinued three weeks ago, although trains composed of cattle cars are operating more or less on the old war-time schedule. A cattle truck holds four horses, but nowadays 60 persons are accommodated in one. Sometimes the passengers are wedged so closely together in the corners that they are unable to get out or even to sit down until their destination is reached."

Ice Producers to Meet in Chicago.

Pittsburgh, March 14.—Members of the Middle States Ice Producers' exchange, at their annual convention here, voted to hold the 1919 meeting in Chicago. Thomas A. Dunn of Pittsburgh was elected president.

SHIGO IDZUMI



Shigo Idzumi, secretary of the ministry of finance, who arrived several days ago from Japan to study United States war taxation methods.

AIR RAID ON ENGLAND

German Airplanes Drop Bombs on Yorkshire Coast.

British Aviators Hurl Tons of Explosives Upon Town of Coblenz in Prussia.

London, March 14.—Three Zeppelins took part in last night's air raid on England. One of them dropped four bombs on Hull. The other airship flew about aimlessly over country districts, dropping bombs, and then proceeded back to sea. One woman died of shock in consequence of the raid.

London, March 14.—Hostile airships attacked the Yorkshire coast last night, according to an official statement.

Field Marshal Lord French, commander of the home forces, reports that one of two hostile airships attacked the Yorkshire coast. A few bombs are reported to have fallen a short distance inland. No reports of casualties or damage have been received.

Another official communication says British aviators have dropped a ton of bombs on the town of Coblenz, capital of the Rhine province of Prussia, causing explosions and fires.

Coblenz has a population of nearly 50,000 and is a strongly fortified town. On the opposite bank of the Rhine, on a lofty, rocky eminence, is the fortress of Ehrenbreitstein, which has been considered almost impregnable.

Lord French announced that the total casualties in last Thursday's air raid on London were 20 killed and 45 injured.

Thirteen German airplanes and three balloons were put out of action by the British last Friday.

Amsterdam, March 13.—A telegram from Frankfurt-on-the-Main asserts that as a result of a British daylight raid on Mainz last Saturday three soldiers, four women and one child were killed and many other persons were injured. No military damage was done, it is declared.

FRANCE ASKS JAP INVASION

Favors Unconditional Japanese Intervention in Siberia, Says a Tokyo Dispatch.

Tokyo, March 14.—France favors unconditional Japanese intervention in Siberia, according to authoritative information here. Great Britain's attitude, however, is contingent upon American, which fears arousing united Russian hostility, according to the same source. Pending word from Washington, the foreign advisory council postponed its special meeting. The ministry is undecided concerning opinions abroad.

BRITISH SHAKEUP RUMORED

Secretary Henry E. Duke for Ireland, to Retire—Balfour May Drop Out.

London, March 14.—Reports of changes in the cabinet are being discussed at length in the press. Some newspapers state that Henry E. Duke, chief secretary for Ireland, has retired and will be appointed to a judicial position and that James Ian MacPherson, parliamentary secretary to the war office, will go to Ireland in his place.